STAGES OF THE IMMIGRATION PROCESS

* Pre- migration , preparing to move
* Migration/transit (the physical relocation)
* Post migration
* Resettlement in the new society

**Adaptation of the Immigrants**

*By Tasos Vossos, eHow Contributor*

A number of factors are responsible for the smooth adaptation of immigrants.

*Settling down in a new country is not a straightforward process for immigrants. Numerous issues, such as learning a different language, new laws and regulations, unfamiliar people and, of course, a new way of life, can become barriers for the easy adaption of immigrants. Especially when the new society seems worlds apart from what immigrants were used to back home (for example, coming from a small village to bustling New York City), a cultural shock is inevitable.*

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1. Language
   * Speaking the language is imperative for immigrants to be able to adapt to their new environment. Especially when their mother language is not widespread (for example, Slovak in the United Kingdom), immigrants must learn the language before embarking on their trip or immediately after they arrive. Lack of communication can have serious implications when dealing with everyday issues, such as buying groceries or paying bills, but it's also a drawback when searching for a job --- another factor affecting the adaptation of immigrants.

Employment

* + People move to other countries seeking better education or employment opportunities; hence, finding a job is the primary concern of immigrants. Regular employment gives the newly settled the opportunity to start planning their new lives according to the financial means their new jobs provide. Through employment, immigrants also start having a daily routine and regular contact with colleagues and/or clients, both of whom contribute to making the transition period smoother.
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Regulations and Services

* + Moving to a new country means having to learn how to pay bills, how to buy the public transport fare, how to register in the health care system, how to declare your income for tax purposes, which schools are near your home (if you have children) and numerous other important details of everyday life. In a short amount of time, immigrants must grow accustomed to these details that natives have learned throughout the years.

Interpersonal Relationships

* + A factor guaranteeing the easy adaptation of immigrants to their new homes is their relationships with other people. Communication, whether with natives or with members of an immigrant community, is imperative for the newcomer to not feel alone and to feel confident that during a difficult moment there is someone to turn to. Companions can introduce immigrants to various concepts of the new society (including the aforementioned regulations and services), as well as take them out to discover the natives' way of life.

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* [Ask a Lawyer: ImmigrationImmigration-Law.JustAnswer.com](http://www.googleadservices.com/pagead/aclk?sa=L&ai=BXCLJKzOgT5e_Gci--AbQgszoDYON_jj7xN76JMCNtwGQi0AQAhgCIOPxmwIoBDgAUKuV-7oEYMO8yY7IGKAB5c2H_wOyAQx3d3cuZWhvdy5jb226AQozMzZ4MjgwX2pzyAEB2gE7aHR0cDovL3d3dy5laG93LmNvbS9pbmZvXzgyMDU5NzhfYWRhcHRhdGlvbi1pbW1pZ3JhbnRzLmh0bWyAAgHIAvfitAGoAwH1AwAEAIT1AwAAABCIBgE&num=2&ggladgrp=16286180069486294606&gglcreat=16798063722632305316&cid=5Gh8rS7Vhs4z-mjH9x-xqBrW&sig=AOD64_1n_B7IZCg6sgvk0Bqo0uuBcDP3iA&client=ca-ehow_336x280&adurl=http://www.justanswer.com/sip/immigration-law%3Fr%3Dppc%7Cga%7C1%7CRest%2Bof%2BWorld%7CImmigration%26JPKW%3Dimmigration%26JPDC%3DC%26JPST%3Dwww.ehow.com%26JPAD%3D9839600883%26JPMT%3D%26JPNW%3Dd%26JPAF%3Dtxt%26JPCD%3D20120207%26JPRC%3D1%26JPOP%3DDarren_Andrew9sec_Trans)

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* [LossesInTranslation.com: The Stages of Immigration](http://www.lossesintranslation.com/stages-of-immigration.php)

Resources

* [Indmedica: Immigration to Another Country -- An Overview](http://www.indmedica.com/immigration/)
* [SOS Canada 2000: Immigrant Settlement and Adaptation Program](http://www.soscanada2000.com/migration/guide/settadap.html)
* [CRCW: Adaptation of Immigrant Children to the United States ... ; Kristin McCarthy](http://crcw.princeton.edu/workingpapers/WP98-03-McCarthy.pdf)
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